

# CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

### **Cultural Resources Assessment**

# Prepared for

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# Prepared By:

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# HUALAPAI TRIBE OFFICE OF CULTURAL RESOURCES

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### FINDING OF NO HISTORIC PROPERTIES

FOR ATTENTION OF: Armstrong Consultants, Inc., IDT, BIA Realty, Tribal Council

PROJECT NUMBER: N/A

**UNDERTAKING:** Improvement of runway and apron areas at Grand Canyon West tourist facility. The project will entail grading and earth moving activities along and on the runway. The end result will be a safe and reliable airport to serve all size aircraft's.

#### PROPERTY DELINEATION:

LINEAR MILES: 1.2 Miles RIGHT OF WAY: 1.2 Miles AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT (ACRES): 12 acres

EFFECT (ACRES): 12 acres ACRES SURVEYED: 12 acres

RESERVATION: Hualapai

USGS QUAD: Quarter Master Can.

TOWNSHIP: 30 North RANGE: 14 West SECTION: 17 and 20 COUNTY: Mohave Co.

SURVEY TYPE: III

**REMARKS:** No cultural resources were encountered during the survey.

The Office of Cultural Resources recommends cultural clearance for the paving project.

**PROVISO:** Should cultural materials be encountered during the construction, work cease and the Office of Cultural Resources be notified. (36CFR 800.11)

OFFICE OF CULTURAL RESOURCES

DATE

<sup>\*</sup> If you have concerns or questions about the report please contact the Office of Cultural Resources.

# Air Port Improvement at Grand Canyon West

Project description: The Hualapai Airport Technical Advisory Committee and Armstrong Consultants Inc. of, Grand Junction, Colorado, after consultation meetings have agreed that a short-term improvement of the existing Grand Canyon West airport facility is warranted. The short-term improvement of the airfield will include paving the existing runway and apron area. And also around the temianal location.

The proposed short-term improvements will not include the original 115 acres stated in the initial proposal. The Hualapai tribe is contemplating alternate locations for the long-term permanent airport for Grand Canyon West operations. The runway improvement is anticipated to qenerate more business for Grand Canyon West tourist facility.

#### Location

The location of the proposed activaity is the Grand Canyon West tourist facility situated in the north-west corner of the present day Hualapai Indian Reservation. The Grand Canyon West operations is located on the plateau 4,000 ft. above the lower Grand Canyon gorge and Colorado River. The Spectacular scenery that is the Grand Canyon, is located at T. 30N, R 14w., section 20, Mohave co. Arizona. the area has rolling hills, deep gullies and tributary canyons that form the lower gorge.

The Plateau has loose cream colored soils with an under story of sandstone and limestone, about 10mm down from the surface, there are fine to medium coarse pebbles present in the soils.

#### Plants / wild life

The plant community are of the upper Sonoran Zone species which include, cholla, morman tea, barrel cactus, prickly pear, snake weed, small juniper, banana yucca, small sage brush.

The wildlife that thrive in the side canyons, cliffs, and precipices along the canyon rims include snakes, bobcats, mountain lions, crows, hawks eagles, deer, lizards.

## **Cultural Setting**

The location is the range of the Ko'oud va pa'a (plateau people). Their resource range begins at music mountain (Hwal'tem jus va) to present day Grand Canyon West.

The Hualapais who inhabited this area, built check dams in the drainages to catch the rainwater. This practice afforded the people to engage in minimal gardening to supplement their diet of wild game. Their main water source was (TA' quis Ha') cholla spring, located on present day private lands, the Diamond bar Ranch.

The Hualapais also gardened along the river, wherever feasible and in the side canyons that 1 ad springs, such as Quartermaster (ma'dipta) Canyon located east of Grand Canyon West. Prior to the decision of paving the existing runway and apron areas, a cultural survey was conducted regarding cultural resources. The initial survey produced no evidence of cultural resources that may be impacted by the proposed development.

The project was delayed. And put on hold status, because of concerns regarding the close proximity to the canyon, the noise factor also contributed to the delay.

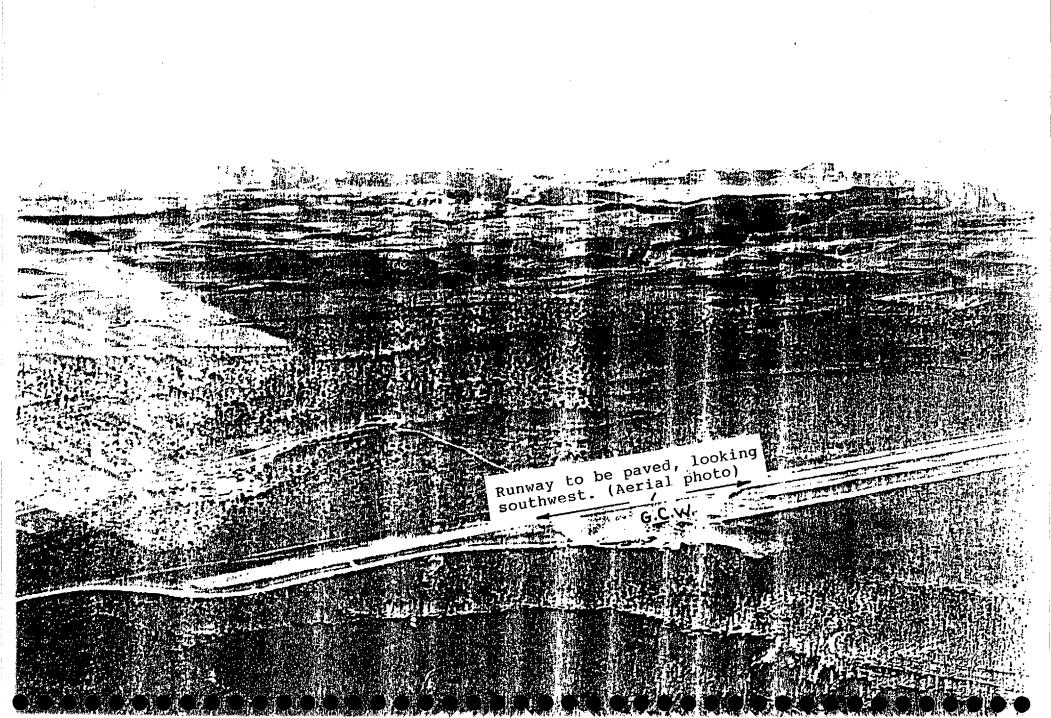
The need for a safe, reliable, permanent airport facility: that can accommodate all sizes of aircraft will be required.

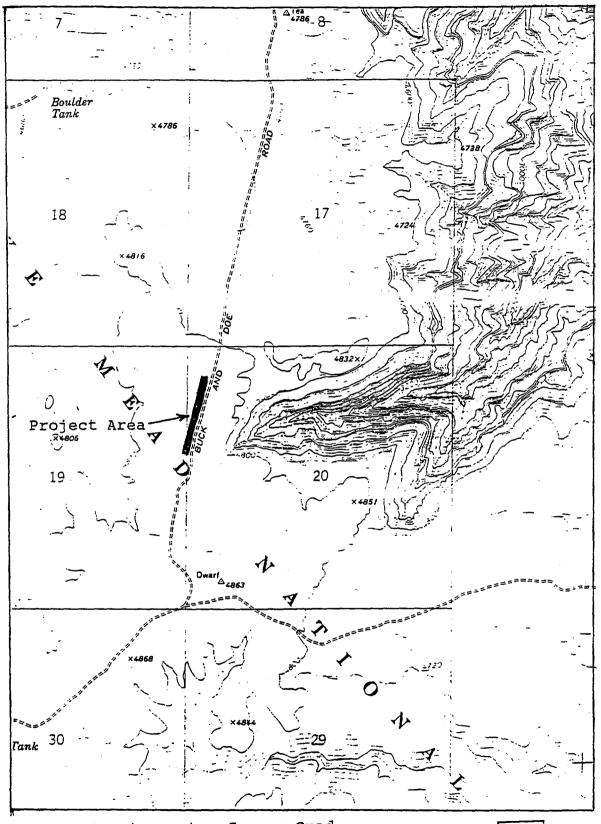
The Hualapai nation desires to inter into the destination resort enerprise and business at Grand Canyon West, therefore the need for a larger, safer, and modern airport facility is warranted. 

### Recommendations

- 1) Remain in the already disturbed area around the existing runway.
- 2) Trenching or digging activitie. Will require a monitor from the office of Cultural Rescues.
- 3) Water the construction area to prevent loss of top soil.
- 4) Avoid creating access roads around project area.

Any Questions or concerns, Please contact the O.C.R. @ (520)-769-2223





Quartermaster Canyon Quad. T.30N, R.14W  $NW_{\frac{1}{2}}$ ,  $SW_{\frac{1}{2}}$ ,  $NW_{\frac{1}{2}}$ , Sec. 20 Mohave Co. Ariz.

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